

APR 20 2009

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (previously presented): A photographing device
2 provided with a dust removing mechanism comprising:
3 a photographing optical system which forms
4 an optical image of an object;
5 a photoelectric conversion element which converts
6 the optical image into an electric signal;
7 an optical element arranged between the
8 photographing optical system and the photoelectric
9 conversion element in such a manner as to seal the
10 photoelectric conversion element;
11 a piezoelectric element provided at a peripheral
12 portion of the optical element;
13 a drive circuit which supplies a periodic drive
14 signal to the piezoelectric element to vibrate the
15 piezoelectric element, thereby vibrating the optical
16 element; and
17 a control circuit which changes a frequency of the
18 periodic drive signal, to thereby cause the optical
19 element to be vibrated at a plurality of frequencies that
20 are close to at least two resonance frequencies different
21 in order and successively applied.

1 Claim 2 (previously presented): The photographing device
2 according to claim 1, wherein the control circuit
3 controls the frequency of the periodic drive signal to
4 vibrate the optical element first at a frequency close to
5 a low-order resonance frequency for a predetermined time
6 and then at another frequency close to a high-order
7 resonance frequency for another predetermined time.

Claims 3-12 (canceled)

1 Claim 13 (previously presented): The photographing
2 device according to claim 1, further comprising an
3 optical low-pass filter arranged in front of the
4 photoelectric conversion element, wherein the optical
5 element is arranged to seal the optical low-pass filter
6 in cooperation with the photoelectric conversion element.

Claim 14 (canceled)